

intended to begin a regular spore exchange with other institutions. In the meantime, because the number of available species is still limited, any contributions of spores or living plants will be much appreciated.—G. KUNKEL, *Camino Viejo 9, Tafira Alta, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Canary Islands, Spain.*

Recent Fern Literature

THE PTERIDOPHYTA OF TAIWAN, by Charles E. DeVol. *Taiwania* **10**: 89–104. 1964; **11**: 41–55. 1965.—Dr. DeVol has spent many years in the study of the ferns of China and Taiwan [Formosa] and has now begun the publication of a comprehensive treatment of the species of Taiwan. The first part is mostly devoted to a general key to the genera and an account of the single species of *Equisetum* occurring in Taiwan. The second part deals wholly with the genus *Lycopodium*, of which 20 species are recognized. The species are keyed, briefly described, and mostly illustrated with line drawings. A serious shortcoming from a scientific point of view is the omission of references to the original publication of the species; on the contrary, the references are “those most easily accessible to our students,” a procedure that might be justified if the work is to be used only as a manual for students in Taiwan but not for a work for general use. Even students will need to have the original citations available at least for knowing the date of publication, even though the original books are not locally available. A usage I do not understand, and which is presumably an error, is the adoption of the name *Lycopodium laxum* Presl, which dates from 1825, and the reduction to synonymy of *L. carinatum* Desv., which dates from 1813 (erroneously stated as 1823 by DeVol); it may be that he intends *L. carinatum sensu* authors not Desvaux. Although correctly cited in the bibliography as H. Nessel, this monographer of *Lycopodium* is cited in several places in the text as “Nessler.” However, these small inaccuracies will not detract seriously from the value of the work, which will be considerable when completed.—C.V.M.